ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the use of the antiviral activity of exogenous leukotriene B_4 (LTB_4), variants and derivatives thereof as a therapeutic agent in viral infections caused by human and animal viruses. The present invention also relates to the use of LTB_4 as an anti-neoplastic agent in the prophylaxis and treatment of cancers induced by tumor viruses and in other neoplasic diseases. The human and animal viruses are DNA viruses, such as parvoviridae, papovaviridae, adenoviridae, herpesviridae, poxviridae and hepadnaviridae; RNA viruses, such as picornaviridae, togaviridae, orthomyxoviridae, paramyxoviridae, coronaviridae, reoviridae, and filoviridae in general, and Retroviridae such as HIV-1 and HIV-2.